

# Beginning String Techniques

## Instructors:

Linda Kistler (violin/viola) 610-351-4014  
Audrey Simons (cello) 610-965-0268  
Paul Rostock (bass) 570-421-9067

Fall 2008  
MUS 138.1  
10:20-11:10 Tues./Thurs.

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**Textbook:** Artistry in Strings by Robert S. Frost and Gerald Fischbach (Neil A. Kjos Music Company, 2002); Teachers' Manual and Score.

## Goals of the Course:

Students will demonstrate the basic concepts of playing the violin, viola, cello, and bass including,

- tuning the instrument
- proper playing position
- left arm development, including shifting, positions, and vibrato
- bow arm development, including tone production and bow strokes
- students will be able to read and execute pieces up to the level of a simple Bach minuet, and to play scales, rudiments, and sight-read at a beginner level.

Students will be able to care for and maintain string instruments, including,

- defining the nomenclature of the parts of the instruments
- replacing strings
- determining proper instrument sizing for young students
- describing basic maintenance procedures

Students will be prepared to teach string instruments at an elementary level by

- determining proper sequence of abilities
- demonstrating knowledge of effective practice techniques
- being able to effectively communicate their knowledge of playing a string instrument, including use of proper terminology
- gaining familiarity with teaching methods and materials

Students will become familiar with how string instruments function in both solo and ensemble settings.

**Grading** will be determined by the following approximate ratio:

Attendance/Classroom Demonstration of playing and teaching abilities/Quiz  
(each worth approximately one-third of the 25 %) (Violin/Viola) 25%

Attendance/Classroom Demonstration of playing and teaching abilities/Written Assignment  
(each worth approximately one-third of the 25 %) (Cello/ Bass) 25%

Preparation for, and Playing Ability in an ensemble 25%  
Final Performance/Teaching Demonstration/Exam 25%

**Academic Honesty Policy:** Academic integrity is the foundation on which learning at Moravian College is built. Moravian expects its students to perform their academic work honestly and fairly. The College's expectations and the consequences of failure to meet those expectations are outlined in the current **Student Handbook**, available from the Student Services Office.

**Attendance** at all classes is mandatory. Excuses must be in writing for missed classes. Any unexcused absence will result in a lowering of the grade.

This syllabus is subject to change by the instructors.